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(e) whether any inquiry was made as to whether the panchayats are letting out coupes regularly, whether there is scarcity of fuel in the town and whether the price of fuel had risen abnormally high; and

(f) whether the Government will be pleased to call for a report from the Chief Conservator of Forests and the Collector concerned?

A.—(a) The hon. Member has been given all information in the possession of Government in answer to his questions Nos. 2011 and 2035 answered on 27th March 1929.

(b) The Collector and the Chief Conservator were not responsible for the recommendations of the Committee. The Collector was a member of the Committee and the Chief Conservator was consulted on the subject by Government.

(c) No.

(d) *to* (f) There appears to be some scarcity for fuel due to other causes. The Government have already called for a report. A copy of the Collector's report is appended.[a]

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR:—"With reference to the answer to clause (c), was there any definite report by the Land Revenue Commissioner or was it based upon the inspection note?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Yes. There was a report."

Income and expenditure in respect of the reserved forests of South Kanara.

* 187 Q.—Mr. K. R. KARANT: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to lay on the table the total income and expenditure, giving the main heads if possible, in respect of the reserved forests of South Kanara, in each of the years following the year in which the reserves were first constituted?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the several annual reports contained in the administration reports of the Forest department, where the required figures for the district as a whole will be found. The Government consider that it is not worthwhile to compile the revenue and expenditure figures for each reserve separately as they can be worked out only at the cost of immense labour.

Forest policy of the Government.

* 188 Q.—Mr. K. R. KARANT: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased—

(a) to lay on the table a copy of the questionnaire issued by Government to the Forest department in regard to the policy of the department; and

(b) to state—

(i) whether Government have received any replies from the department or any report in regard to the forest policy of the Government or in regard to the appointment of a committee of the Council as resolved upon by the Council; and

(ii) whether Government have decided upon the appointment of such a committee; if not, why not?

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[a] Printed as Appendix V on page 435 infra.

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A.—(*a*) & (*b*) Replies to the questionnaire have been received recently and are now under consideration. The question of publication of the questionnaire will be considered after examination of the replies.

Mr. K. R. KARANT :—" May I know to whom the questionnaire was issued and from whom answers have been received ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Only to the Chief Conservator of Forests and the answers have been received only from him."

Mr. K. R. KARANT :—" May I know then why it is stated in the answer ' The question of publication of the questionnaire will be considered after examination of the replies ' ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" That is, there are several questions in the questionnaire and for each question there is a reply."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" May I know why the Government considered that the Chief Conservator was the only individual who was entitled to receive the questionnaire ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Because he is responsible to the Government for the administration of his department."

Rao Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" May I ask the hon. the Law Member whether this question of reorganization of the Forest policy has been placed before the Forest Advisory Committee which had been constituted and whether that committee did not meet for some time ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I will consider that suggestion."

Mr. K. R. KARANT :—" May I know whether the question of the reorganization of the department forms part of the questionnaire ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Yes."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" May I know whether it is not a fact that the control of the panchayats is in the hands of the Revenue department ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Yes."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" May I know whether the questionnaire consists of questions relating to the panchayats ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" No."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" May I know whether the Forest policy of the Government as a whole was not considered and the question of the control of the panchayats by the Revenue department also is not considered in this connexion ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" The question of the control of the Revenue department was not considered."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" May I know whether it is not a fact that the Forest department gives advice to the Revenue department in regard to Forest policy ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Notice, Sir."